

VOLUME III**Volume III, Chapter 1**

1. What does Elizabeth's initial reaction to Pemberley reveal about the significance of property, particularly for women, in the world of *Pride and Prejudice*?

2. Why is Elizabeth so touched by the account Mr. Darcy's housekeeper gives of her master?

3. Why is Elizabeth shocked and uncomfortable when she unexpectedly meets Mr. Darcy at Pemberley?

4. What can readers infer from Mr. Darcy's second encounter with the Gardiners and Elizabeth in the gardens of Pemberley?

5. Why is Elizabeth pleased when Mr. Darcy enters into a conversation with the Gardiners?

6. What particularly delights Elizabeth when she learns that Georgiana Darcy would like to make her acquaintance?

Volume III, Chapter 2

1. Structurally, what is occurring in these chapters? What, then, was Darcy's proposal in Volume II, chapter 11?

2. What conclusion do the Gardiners draw about Mr. Darcy when he brings his sister to meet Elizabeth? Why do they draw that conclusion?

3. Aside from mutual affection, what evidence is there that Elizabeth and Darcy might be suited for one another?

4. How does the behavior of the Gardiners after Mr. Darcy, his sister, and Mr. Bingley leave differ from the typical behavior of Elizabeth's other relatives?

Volume III, Chapter 3

1. Why does Miss Bingley criticize Elizabeth's tan?

2. How does Mr. Darcy come to admit that he was once a victim of first impressions and premature judgment?

Volume III, Chapter 4

1. What is so shocking about Lydia's elopement?

2. Why does Elizabeth blame herself for Lydia's indiscreet behavior and loss of reputation?

3. What consequences does Elizabeth expect she will suffer as a result of Lydia's disgrace?

Volume III, Chapter 5

1. In what way is Elizabeth's assessment of Lydia's behavior an implicit criticism of Mr. Bennet?

2. How can Mrs. Bennet feel distressed about Lydia's disappearance even though she wholeheartedly supported Lydia's decision to go to Brighton and her daughter's excessive fascination with the regiment?

Volume III, Chapter 6

1. What does the change of Wickham's reputation in Meryton reveal about the community fabric?

2. What does Mr. Collins's advice suggest about the importance of social respectability?

3. How convincing is Mr. Bennet's resolution to be a stricter father?

Volume III, Chapter 7

1. Why does Mr. Bennet believe that his brother, Mr. Gardiner, paid money to convince Mr. Wickham that he must marry Lydia?

2. How is Mrs. Bennet's reaction to Mr. Gardiner's letter a reflection on her foolish nature and her inability to learn from her mistakes?

3. Is Mrs. Bennet a static or a dynamic character?

Volume III, Chapter 8

1. Do Mr. Bennet's reflections at the beginning of this chapter show him to be a dynamic character? Why or why not?

2. What do the following lines reveal about the concept of community in the town of Meryton: "To be sure it would have been more for the advantage of conversation, had Miss Lydia Bennet come upon the town; or, as the happiest alternative, been secluded from the world, in some distant farm house"?

3. How does Mrs. Bennet further reinforce that she has not grown or changed as a result of recent events?

4. Why does Elizabeth wish that she had never told Mr. Darcy about Lydia's elopement?

Volume III, Chapter 9

1. How repentant is Lydia for the inconvenience she has caused her family?

2. What does Elizabeth reveal about herself when she says to Lydia, "I do not particularly like your way of getting husbands"?

3. What is suggested by the revelation that Darcy was present at Lydia and Wickham's wedding? What previous clues support this suggestion?

Volume III, Chapter 10

1. What motivations does Mr. Darcy have for attempting to find Mr. Wickham and Lydia in London?

2. What function do Lydia and Wickham play in Austen's gentle social commentary? What social theme do they help to illustrate?

Volume III, Chapter 11

1. Why does Jane feel uneasy when she hears that Mr. Bingley is returning to Netherfield?

2. How is Elizabeth ambivalent about Mr. Darcy's returning with Mr. Bingley?

3. Why does Elizabeth wish never to "see either one or the other again" when Mr. Darcy and Mr. Bingley are visiting Longbourn?

Volume III, Chapter 12

1. What does Austen reveal about Elizabeth when she writes that Elizabeth looked at Mr. Darcy with a "triumphant sensation" as soon as Mr. Bingley takes a seat next to Jane?

2. Why is Elizabeth so eager to talk to Mr. Darcy after dinner when the guests gather in the drawing room?

Volume III, Chapter 13

1. What does Jane mean when she says she is "the happiest creature in the world"?

2. What is Elizabeth's chief reason for believing that the marriage between Jane and Mr. Bingley will be a happy one?

3. What does Jane's attitude toward Miss Bingley reveal about her development as a character?

Volume III, Chapter 14

1. What tone characterizes Lady Catherine de Bourgh's attitude and behavior when she visits Longbourn?

2. What rumor motivates Lady Catherine's visit at Longbourn?

3. What tone characterizes Elizabeth's response to Lady Catherine's accusations?

4. What, according to Lady Catherine, determines whether or not two people are "formed for each other"?

Volume III, Chapter 15

1. Who is responsible for starting the rumor about Mr. Darcy's imminent proposal?

2. Why does Elizabeth resent her father's sense of irony and sarcasm when he shares Mr. Collins' letter with her?

Volume III, Chapter 16

1. How does Mr. Darcy react when Elizabeth thanks him for the good he has done for Lydia and her entire family?

2. To what extent did Lady Catherine's visit motivate Mr. Darcy to propose to Elizabeth again?

3. What does Mr. Darcy admit he has learned from Elizabeth?

4. What does Elizabeth learn about Mr. Darcy's attitude toward Jane and Mr. Bingley?

Volume III, Chapter 17

1. How does Jane react to the news of Elizabeth's engagement? What does her reaction reveal about her attitude toward her sister?

2. What, again, does news of Elizabeth's engagement emphasize about Mrs. Bennet's character?

Volume III, Chapter 18

1. Who among her relatives are the only ones Elizabeth will gladly welcome to Pemberley?

Volume III, Chapter 19

1. What evidence of reconciliation does Austen present at the end of her novel?

2. What lesson about marriage does Austen convey when she writes about the deteriorating relationship between Lydia and Mr. Wickham?
